

# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



Vision Statement: As vigilant quardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.

# **DATE:**

(Weeks of May 1 – May 15)

This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.

# **REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis**

District 1 – Sgt. Tony Petreikis

(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)

#### CARROLL COUNTY

CPO Jones and Sgt. Petreikis issued civil citations to a Savanna man for possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia.

CPO Jones cited two Rock Falls men for picking mushrooms in a nature preserve.

CPO Jones checked four Chicago suburb men turkey hunting at French Bluff Natural Area. All four were issued written warnings for no windshield card. Three of them were issued written warnings for unsigned permits. One was cited for use of an unplugged shotgun.

# **HENRY COUNTY**

CPO Posateri issued salvage tags for deer heads which were found while people were mushroom hunting. If a carcass with the antlers still attached to the skull is found and the person wishes to keep it, the person must contact the local CPO prior to moving the carcass. It is not always finder's keeper in this case, as you may have found a piece of evidence for a poaching case the CPOs have been working on in that area. And those deer with a salvage tag cannot be bought, sold, or bartered in any manner.

# JO DAVIESS COUNTY

#### LEE COUNTY

CPO Teas spoke at a hunter safety class in Lee County.

CPO Posateri and wildlife biologist Frank Ospling completed a wildlife spotlight survey in Lee County. The annual predetermined route showed a variety of active wildlife including deer, rabbits, raccoons, and a fox. Several cats were also counted within the survey since they have an impact on the wildlife.

#### MERCER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# **OGLE COUNTY**

While on patrol in White Pines State Park in Ogle County, CPOs Beltran and Teas observed a single vehicle parked in one of the lots. The CPOs pulled up next to the car, and the driver of the vehicle rolled down his window. As he did this, a large cloud of smoke rolled out of the vehicle. The driver and passenger subsequently received civil citations for possession of cannabis and paraphernalia.

CPO Teas attended a hunter safety class at the Byron Forest Preserve.

CPO Teas attended a Cub Scout event with the education trailer in Ogle County.

While traveling through a secluded portion of Castle Rock State Park in Ogle County, CPO Teas observed a vehicle parked in a hunter parking lot after hours. As the CPO entered the parking lot, he observed the interior of the vehicle to be on fire and filled with smoke. The CPO soon located an unconscious subject in the driver's seat. CPO Teas broke the driver's window to gain access to the subject. The unconscious subject was pulled from the vehicle and carried to a safe location as the vehicle quickly became fully engulfed. The vehicle fire was extinguished by Oregon Fire, and the subject was transported by ambulance to the hospital. The investigation revealed the incident to be a suicide attempt. After treatment in the hospital, the subject was released almost a week later with no major injuries and is expected to make a full recovery.

CPO Beltran issued civil cannabis violations to a subject from Dixon for smoking in White Pines State Park.

# **ROCK ISLAND**

CPO Steve Francisko provided training on the Homeland Security Ottercraft boat to District 1 CPOs. The training consisted of familiarization with equipment and operation skills. CPO Francisko also showed CPOs how to pull a person out of the water and into the boat if necessary.

#### **STEPHENSON**

# WHITESIDE

CPO Teas cited a fisherman in Whiteside County for being in possession of a Smallmouth Bass during the closed season.

# District 6 - Sgt. Phil Wire

(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)

#### **BOONE COUNTY**

CPO Alt was contacted at home while off duty by the Boone County Sheriff's Department who had a Chicago suburb man and two juvenile males in custody. They were apprehended for shooting crows out of their moving automobile from the public right-of-way. The adult was also going to be charged with providing alcohol to the minors. The minors were charged with possession/consumption of alcohol. After it was determined that the sheriff's department wished to handle the complaint in its entirety, CPO Alt assisted their agency by providing the arresting deputy with all applicable wildlife code statutes and section numbers for charging to include: unlawful transportation of a loaded uncased gun in or on a vehicle or conveyance, unlawful taking, pursuit or harassment of wildlife by aid or use of a vehicle or conveyance, unlawful discharge of a gun along, across or from a public highway or right-of-way, unlawful taking or attempting to take migratory game birds with an air gun, unlawful taking or attempting to take crow during the closed season, unlawful hunting wildlife without a hunting license and unlawful hunting wildlife without a habitat stamp.

CPO Alt accompanied Candlewick Lake Association Security on their boat for a brief watercraft patrol. One written warning was issued for a battery terminal violation.

#### **BUREAU COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

# **DEKALB COUNTY**

CPO Murry inspected 26 boats prior to the start of the Illinois High School Association fishing sectional held at Shabbona Lake on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

# LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Murry patrolled Starved Rock State Park. He issued three citations for illegal combing and two citations for civil violations of cannabis. On that same day, he issued three speeding citations to vehicles driving in Starved Rock State Park.

CPO Filipiak was on patrol in LaSalle County and observed a vehicle driving in the wrong lane. The vehicle crossed the center line multiple times and came to a complete stop in the middle of the road. After conducting a traffic stop and field sobriety testing, the female drive was arrested for driving under the influence of drug and other intoxicating compounds.

# **PUTNAM COUNTY**

CPO Finn and CPO Filipiak were patrolling Putnam County when they observed a vehicle being driven by an operator they knew to be suspended. The Putnam County man had been cited for illegally mushrooming a few days prior. Finn and Filipiak performed a traffic stop and issued the driver two citations and 5 warnings. The driver has a mandatory court date in Putnam County.

# WINNEBAGO COUNTY

While discussing ongoing cases and recent arrests, CPO Alt told CPO Fraser of a recent warrant arrest in downtown Rockford. The subject CPO Alt arrested matched the description of a subject who fled from CPO Fraser earlier in the month; the other subjects involved were also the same in both cases. CPO Fraser travelled to the Winnebago County jail where the subject was being held on a no bond warrant. After a short interview, the subject admitted he was the subject who fled from CPO Fraser earlier. The subject was issued citations for no fishing license, obstructing identification, and resisting arrest.

Winnebago County CPOs received information about an illegal shelter within a natural area in Rock Cut State Park. While checking the shelter, CPO Fraser located two subjects utilizing it and smoking cannabis and drinking alcohol. Multiple citations were issued for civil cannabis and park violations.

CPO Alt attended the Illinois High School Association high school fishing tournament held on Pierce Lake. Twenty-one team boats were inspected prior to the start of the event per tournament and permit regulations.

CPO Alt and CPO Schoonhoven attended the Careers on Wheels event at the Rockford Rivets semi - professional baseball stadium parking lot in Loves Park for area 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade school students. This event is designed to expose area youth to possible career path options, increase agency exposure to the public, and help students curtail high school and college career study course focus. Over 2,200 students from Boone and Winnebago Counties were in attendance during this one-day event. Off Road Equipment and the Conservation Police Lodge education trailer were utilized as exhibits to inform students about a career as a CPO.

CPO Alt completed a watercraft patrol on Pierce Lake in Rock Cut State Park. During the four-hour patrol, CPO Alt inspected 9 watercraft which yielded 1 citation for violation of the posted no wake and 11 written warnings for various boat equipment and fishing license violations.

CPO Alt was in downtown Rockford checking sport fisherman along the Rock River for compliance to the Illinois fishing code when he responded to an All Units request from the Rockford Police Department for a drive-by shooting and murder that had just occurred. CPO Alt assisted city police with perimeter scene control which freed up uniformed officers to rope off the interior scene, obtain witness statements, and complete a neighborhood canvass of the surrounding area.

# **District 7, Sgt. Scott Avery**

(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell,

Warren & Woodford)

#### **FULTON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Reid worked a commercial fishing detail on the Mississippi River in Pool 19.

# **KNOX COUNTY**

CPO Lazzell cited two fishermen at Lake McMaster for littering and pollution of a waterway after observing them toss a plastic bag full of empty beer cans along the shoreline and sink beer cans in the lake on their approach to the boat ramp. One additional citation was issued to the operator of the vessel for failure to possess a sufficient number of life jackets.

#### **MARSHALL**

No activity reported for this county

#### **McDONOUGH**

No activity reported for this county

# **PEORIA COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

# STARK COUNTY

CPO Lazzell received a case disposition for a Wisconsin resident who was unlawfully buying timber without a timber buyer's license under the business name of Midwest Wood & Land Consulting. The business owner pled guilty to one count of buying timber without a license in Stark County and paid fines and fees totaling \$1,587.

# **TAZEWELL COUNTY**

CPO VanZant cited two subjects while checking fisherman at Powerton Lake. One subject was cited for being in a posted restricted area after hours, and the second subject was cited for possession of alcohol in a posted area.

CPO VanZant cited four subjects for fishing without valid sport fishing licenses.

#### WARREN COUNTY

CPO Reid cited an out of state hunter for unlawfully taking a whitetail deer during the firearm deer season.

#### WOODFORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# **REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins**

# <u>District 2</u> – Sgt. Eric Schreiber

(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)

#### KANE COUNTY

CPO Semenik attended the Mooseheart Police Memorial in Kane County.

CPO VanWiltenburg and Sgt. Schreiber cited a subject at the Algonquin Dam for failure to immediately release a Smallmouth Bass. The season is closed from April 1 – June 15.

CPO VanWiltenburg and Sgt. Schreiber cited a subject in St. Charles for failure to immediately release three Smallmouth Bass during closed season.

#### LAKE COUNTY

While checking fisherman on Channel Lake, CPO Winters came across a subject with an 8" and 9" Largemouth Bass. The subject received a citation for failure to immediately release a short Bass.

CPO Kelley appeared at three sessions of a law enforcement class held at the College of Lake County vocational campus.

CPOs Kelley and Semenik responded to an injured deer complaint. The deer turned out to be a beaver (common mistake) and was uninjured.

CPO Winters was conducting radar speed enforcement at Illinois Beach State Park. He stopped a vehicle for traveling 20 MPH over the posted speed limit. The driver of the vehicle was also driving on a revoked driver's license. Appropriate action was taken, and the vehicle was removed by a valid driver.

# McHENRY COUNTY

Sgt. Schreiber and CPOs Semenik and Vaughan conducted a detail at Moraine Hills State Park. They arrested one subject for public indecency. As CPO Semenik was completing the tow inventory, a second subject approached and inappropriately grabbed him in the genitals. The 77-year-old male subject was arrested for battery and public indecency and transported to the McHenry County jail

# District 3 – Sgt. Dave Wollgast

(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)

#### **GRUNDY COUNTY**

CPO Anderson responded to a citizen with a medical emergency at Heidecke Lake FWA. The subject was diabetic and had low sugar. The subject was transported to Morris Hospital ER by Coal City EMS and treated/released that day.

CPO Anderson, Sgt. Wollgast, and Fisheries biologist Miller assisted a fisherman who caught a large Muskie on a private lake. The fish was weighed on a certified scale by the US Post Office in Morris. Biologist Miller took a DNA sample to identify if the fish is a pure Muskellunge or hybrid. If it is a hybrid it will exceed the previous state hybrid (Tiger) Musky record by over 5 pounds.

#### KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Vadbunker conducted a K-9 detail with the DEA which resulted in 5 drug arrests and the seizure of \$40K cash and LSD.

CPOs Farber and Vadbunker received a call from the Kankakee County Sheriff's Department regarding an orphaned whitetail deer fawn. The sheriff's department and FBI conducted a raid on a house in rural Kankakee County, and a week old fawn was located inside the residence. The CPOs took possession of the fawn and relocated it to a wildlife rehabilitator in Aroma Park.

CPO Farber conducted sport fish enforcement at Bird Park Quarry. From a position of concealment, CPO Farber observed two subjects fishing from the dock. CPO Farber approached the fishermen to conduct a compliance check. When the fishermen spotted the CPO walking toward their direction, both men dropped their poles to the dock. One pole fell into the water. CPO Farber was able to retrieve the pole from the water before it sank. Both subjects were issued a citation for fishing without a license.

# KENDALL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# WILL COUNTY

# <u>District 4</u> – Sgt. Jed Whitchurch (Counties: Cook & DuPage, Lake)

# **COOK COUNTY**

CPO Ausmus and CPO Thornley were on routine patrol traveling west on the I-290 Expressway, in stop-and-go traffic, when they observed a SUV driving along the right shoulder with its hazards on. The SUV passed several vehicles before passing the CPOs and then continued on the shoulder. The CPOs conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. The driver stated she was just looking for a good place to pull-over to check her oil. When asked why she didn't stop once she was safely on the shoulder, the driver did not have an answer. A check of the driver through ISP communications revealed she had an active warrant out of Cicero. The female driver from Milwaukee was arrested for the outstanding warrant. She was issued a written warning for unlawfully driving on the shoulder.

CPO Ausmus picked up an Ornate Box Turtle that a long-time owner wished to surrender. The turtle, Mr. T, had been a family pet for approximately 25 years. Recently, the owner was informed that Ornate Box Turtles are on the State Endangered/Threatened Species list and unlawful to possess without a proper permit. Mr. T was transported to the Wildlife Discovery Center in Lake Forrest.

While conducting sport fish enforcement, CPO Ausmus made contact with two subjects fishing at Sauk Trail Lake in Chicago Heights. Nether subject possessed a valid sport fishing license, and the Lansing man had an active arrest warrant for dangerous drugs. CPO Ausmus issued two written warnings, and arrested the Lansing man on the outstanding arrest warrant.

CPO Ausmus and CPO Klemme conducted recreational boat enforcement on the Chicago River. The CPOs checked 8 vessels and 4 bank fisherman. One no-wake citation and several written warnings were issued for other infractions.

CPO Ausmus and CPO Snodgrass assisted University of Chicago staff in removing two Canada geese and 5 goslings from the roof of a building. The geese nested there on a "green" space roof and hatched 5 goslings. The goslings ended up on a small flat roof with a 4' high ledge around it and were unable to get out. CPO Ausmus and CPO Snodgrass were able to capture the goslings and transport them to ground level. When the adult geese heard the goslings, they followed. The family was reunited in a small pond across the quadrangle.

CPO Ausmus and CPO Snodgrass conducted sport fishing enforcement at several of the Chicago Park District lagoons. Five anglers were contacted. 1 citation and 3 written warnings were issued for no valid sport fishing license.

CPO Thornley conducted sport fish enforcement of Cook County lakes and streams. CPO Thornley issued 2 written warnings for fishing license not on possession.

CPO Thornley conducted department lands enforcement. He attempted to apprehend a 4 wheeler at William Powers. The subject ran and damaged CPO Thornley's squad. CPO Thornley traveled to his residence and switched squads. CPO Thornley completed required reports for damage to the squad.

CPO Thornley assisted CPO Sanford on an endangered species case. CPO Sanford issued 1 citation and several written warnings. CPOs Sanford and Thornley seized 5 snakes and transported them a reptile facility for holding.

CPO Thornley attended and taught a hunter safety course to 35 students at Sportsman Club in Naperville.

CPO Thornley conducted sport fish enforcement at Tampier Lake, Sag Slough, Sag Quarries, Des Plaines River at Jeans Road, Belly deep slough and Busse Lake. CPO Thornley checked several fishermen, issued 1 written warning for no fishing license and a citation for illegal transportation of alcohol.

CPO Thornley conducted 2 boat safety inspections at Tampier Lake.

CPO Thornley conducted recreational sport fish enforcement at Belmont Harbor and Montrose harbor. CPO Thornley issued 2 written warning for no valid fishing license (expired in 2016) and an unattended fishing device. While walking at Montrose Harbor, CPO Thornley smelled burnt cannabis. CPO Thornley located the source of the smell and issued a civil citation for the violation.

CPO Thornley responded to an ISP call of ducks in roadway. CPO Thornley canvased the area, but the ducks were gone on arrival.

CPO Thornley conducted sport fish enforcement at DesPlaines River and Sag Slough.

During this reporting period, CPO Sanford performed patrols at sites throughout Cook County. CPO Sanford performed numerous fishing compliance checks, resulting in 2 citations and 5 written warnings for fishing without a valid sport fishing license. CPO Sanford also issued 2 written warnings for untagged sport fishing devices at Montrose Harbor.

CPO Sanford and CPO Mooi conducted boat patrol on the Chicago River. During the patrol, 5 Boat Registration and Safety Inspections were conducted, resulting in 2 written warnings for wake zone violations, 2 written warnings for unnumbered watercraft, and 1 written warning for a battery cover violation.

CPO Sanford conducted an Endangered/Threatened Species Permit investigation in Palos Park. The investigation resulted in 1 citation for unlawful possession of an endangered/threatened species, 4 written warnings for unlawful possession of an endangered/threatened species, and 1 written warning for a reporting violation.

CPO Sanford conducted a preliminary investigation pertaining to the environmental impacts of a diesel spill in Cook County. The investigation is still ongoing.

CPO Stanbary conducted two vessel registration inspections in northern Cook County. A written warning was issued to a fisherman at Montrose Harbor for no Salmon stamp.

CPO Stanbary assisted the Cook County Forest Preserve with an Illinois High School Association Bass tournament. CPO Stanbary conducted pre-tournament inspections on numerous boats that were entered in the competition.

While checking fishermen at Tampier Lake, CPO Stanbary cited two men for fishing with no valid sport fishing licenses.

CPO Stanbary conducted a boat patrol with CPO Klemme on the Chicago River. 1 citation was issued to a boater for no valid registration, 1 written warning was issued to a kayak rental company for renting boats with no water usage stamp or rental boat sticker affixed to the craft. 4 boat inspections were completed. 2 civil cannabis citations were issued to 2 men found smoking cannabis in their vehicle at Belly Deep Slough. The CPO found the men to be in possession of a cannabis cigarette and a small plastic baggie of cannabis. The men also had open alcohol inside their vehicle.

CPO Stanbary patrolled William Powers State Fish & Wilidlife Area. One boater was issued a citation for no wearable life jackets and a written warning for no fire extinguisher and no type IV throwable device. 2 individuals were issued civil cannabis violations after being found in possession of cannabis and paraphernalia. One citation was issued for possession of alcohol in a restricted area.

A non-resident angler was cited for no valid non-resident sport fishing license after he was located fishing on Calumet River without proper licensing.

CPO Snodgrass seized a tree stand and game camera that had been abandoned on private property in Cook County. The complaint came from a private landowner in Cook County who complained a person was hunting unlawfully on their property during the previous deer hunting season. The person was cited for unlawfully hunting without permission last year, but did not take the equipment from the property when issued a directive in writing to do so.

CPO Snodgrass attended and taught a hunter safety education class in Palatine. CPO Snodgrass stayed for a short time after the class was over to answer questions.

CPO Snodgrass conducted fishing compliance checks at several Cook County Forest Preserve lakes. He issued 2 citations and 2 written warnings for numerous fishing violations. CPO Snodgrass educated the violators on the importance of conservation laws.

CPO Snodgrass patrolled a Cook County lake where he encountered two people who were fishing without valid sport fishing licenses. He issued 2 written warnings for fishing without valid sport fishing licenses. CPO Snodgrass educated the fishermen on conservation laws.

CPO Snodgrass patrolled William Powers State Park and checked anglers who were attempting to catch the active spring fish at Wolf Lake. CPO Snodgrass asked one person for a fishing license. The person did not have a valid one in his possession. The person was issued a written warning for no sport fishing license.

# **DuPAGE COUNTY**

CPO Mooi investigated a trapping complaint in DuPage County. The property owner was previously warned about nuisance trapping without a permit. After an investigation, with assistance from the Lombard Police Department, the man was cited for taking animals by use of poison, and trapping without permits, habitat stamps and while using untagged traps.

# **REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes**

# <u>District 11</u> – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)

#### CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum issued a salvage deer tag to a Clark County man.

CPO Wellum assisted a Clark County Deputy with traffic control for an accident which occurred on the Clarksville Road.

CPO Wellum assisted two Clark County Deputies with attempting to locate two burglary suspects who were reported to be armed with firearms. Both subjects were located without incident, but no firearms were located.

CPO Wellum issued a North Carolina man a citation for speeding sixty-seven (67) miles per hour (mph) in a thirty (30) mph zone in Clark County.

#### **COLES COUNTY**

CPO Mieure conducted a traffic stop after seeing a subject pass two vehicles in a turning lane. A Mattoon subject was issued a citation for driving on a suspended license.

While conducting fishing checks at Lake Paradise, CPO Mieure saw a kayaker below the spillway. The kayaker was waved over to the bank where a boat safety compliance check was conducted. A citation was issued to the kayaker for not having a lifejacket.

CPO Mieure assisted Charleston PD in removing a family from below the Embarrass River spillway. Multiple children under the age of 8 were wading in the flooded water. No enforcement action was taken, but information was provided to the parents of the children on the dangers the spillway creates.

CPO Moody cited multiple subjects at various lakes for fishing violations in Coles County.

CPOs Moody and Barnes investigated a Mattoon man who was trying to sell what he believed to be a baby Alligator Snapping Turtle on Craigslist. The two located the man, and the common snapping turtle was release. The man was issued multiple written warnings.

#### **CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

# **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### **EDGAR COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### **MOULTRIE COUNTY**

CPO Moody issued two Decatur men citations for fishing violations on Lake Shelbyville.

#### SHELBY COUNTY

Sgt McReynolds and CPO Greuel investigated damage to a Wolf Creek State Park courtesy dock which occurred when a rented and unattended 63-foot houseboat was inadequately anchored in high winds. The houseboat was blown across a cove and struck the dock, all while dragging its anchor. Several citations and written warnings were issued when the occupants returned to the scene on rented fishing boats and were found to be overloaded and with insufficient personal flotation devices.

CPO Wellum and CPO Greuel attended Vehicle Dynamics Firearm Instructor Development training in Chillicothe.

Sgt McReynolds responded to the State Emergency Operation Center in Springfield for an Activation for Statewide Flood Response.

# <u>District 19</u> – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)

#### CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CPO Reeves attended a field day at the Cunningham Children's Home in Champaign. There were about 100 kids in attendance.

# **DEWITT COUNTY**

CPO Wright and Sgt. Williamson conducted a boat patrol over the weekend on Clinton Lake. Approximately six boats and fishermen were checked, and several violations were observed. Two citations were issued for no fishing license and another for expired boat registration. Multiple written warnings were also issued.

CPO Viverito focused on littering at state parks in DeWitt County the first week of May. The detail successfully targeted two individuals for littering. A Bloomington man and a Farmer City man received citations for littering.

Clinton Lake hosted its second annual clean-up day. The clean-up day was a joint effort between the conservation police officers, Division of Land Management employees, local businesses and volunteers. Volunteers retrieved trash from the banks of Clinton Lake for five hours. Their efforts filled three dump trucks and several pickup beds with trash.

#### **FORD COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### **IROQUOIS**

No activity reported for this county

#### LIVINGSTON

No activity reported for this county

# **MACON COUNTY**

CPO Wright was on a boat patrol on Lake Decatur for boating and fishing enforcement. Numerous boat violations were observed including life jackets, fire extinguishers, battery covers and passengers riding outside of the railings while underway. One fishing boat checked was found to be in possession of three short Crappie. Lake Decatur has a 10 inch minimum for Crappie. The three short fish were between 7 and 8 1/2 inches. CPO Wright recognized the name of the operator of the boat and asked him where he knew the name from. The operator then reminded CPO Wright that he had previously arrested him a few years ago for hunting without permission. The boat passenger was given one citation for the short Crappie and the boat operator was given two written warnings for no type 4 PFDs and no fire extinguisher.

CPO Wright observed a vehicle parked at a popular parking spot for fishermen with two men sitting inside. When the occupants in the vehicle observed CPO Wright, they immediately put the vehicle in drive and exited the parking lot. CPO Wright followed and observed the vehicle not come to a complete stop and initiated a traffic stop. After a short interview, the driver admitted that they had been smoking weed in the parking lot. He also admitted to having weed and drug paraphernalia in the vehicle. A civil citation was issued to the driver for cannabis.

CPO Wright was sitting at the Lost Bridge boat ramp on Lake Decatur checking boats as they were coming in. On his last boat inspection of the evening, he found the fishermen in the boat to be in possession of two short Crappie. The fisherman was given a citation for the short Crappie and a written warning for a boat violation.

#### McLEAN COUNTY

During the afternoon of Sunday, May 07, CPO Graden and CPO Gerard conducted boat patrol on Evergreen Lake. Several watercraft inspections and sport fishing compliance checks were conducted. Written warnings were issued for fishing without a valid license (x2), operation of a motorboat without a fire extinguisher (x2),

no water usage stamp for kayak, operation of a motorboat with insufficient number of wearable life vests, and operation of a motorboat without a type IV throwable flotation device. Citations were issued for: operation of a watercraft and operation of a motorboat with insufficient number of wearable life vests.

On Monday, May 08, CPO Graden, CPO Cottrell and Sgt. Williamson conducted courtesy watercraft inspections, at Lake Bloomington, Lake Evergreen and Clinton Lake, prior to the IHSA Bass fishing sectional.

# PIATT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Cottrell cited 2 Indiana residents for entering a posted restricted area before 1:00 PM to go mushroom hunting in Harry Babe Woodyard State Natural Area. There were several turkey hunters in the area.

# **REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul**

<u>District 9</u> – Sgt. Eric Myers

(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike &

**Schuyler**)

# **ADAMS COUNTY**

CPO Blazinic responded to and investigated a wildlife complaint in Quincy. A subject was keeping a Canada Goose gosling as a pet. The subject also possessed a snapping turtle outside of snapping turtle season. Both the goose and snapping turtle were released back into the wild. Citations were issued.

# **BROWN COUNTY**

CPO Blakeley located turkey bait on a property in Brown county during the last week of April. He observed fresh UTV tracks on the property that appeared to be from the previous weekend. CPO Blakeley followed the tracks. The tracks stopped at the edge of the timber. CPO Blakeley walked into the timber a few yards and noticed the leaves on the hillside had been scratched by turkeys. He then inspected the area and found cracked corn over a large area. CPO Blakeley was out of town on his weekend off and was notified the individuals were hunting the baited property. CPO Blakeley contacted CPO Blazinic and relayed the location of the area and details of the case. CPO Blazinic arrived at the area and was able to locate the subjects hunting the area. CPO Blazinic issued a citation for hunting turkeys with the aid of bait and illegally feeding deer.

#### **CALHOUN COUNTY**

CPOs Goetten and Weishaupt coordinated the removal of a 40' houseboat that had drifted against the Hardin Bridge. The boat had been used as a cabin along the Illinois River. Due to the flooding, it broke loose and

became lodged against the bridge. Both officers tracked the current owner by using boat registration records and interviewing numerous people having owned the boat over several years. CPO Weishaupt eventually located the responsible party. Arrangements between the United States Coast Guard and a private tow company were made to remove the hazard.

#### GREENE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### HANCOCK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Goetten stopped a vehicle for driving 26 MPH in excess of the speed limit at Pere Marquette State Park. The driver was wanted on a Champaign County arrest warrant for theft. He also possessed drug paraphernalia and cannabis. He was arrested and transported to the Jersey County jail.

CPO Goetten stopped a vehicle at Pere Marquette State Park. The driver had a suspended license and the passenger had several items of drug paraphernalia and cannabis.

#### MACOUPIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# **PIKE COUNTY**

CPO Blazinic responded to an injured Bald Eagle struck by a Semi on I-72 at the Hannibal bridge. The eagle was transported to Katherine Road Animal Hospital.

# SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# <u>District 10</u> – Sgt. Chris Stone

(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

# CASS COUNTY

CPO Gilmer, with the help of CPO Elliott, charged a turkey hunter who failed to tag his second wild turkey of the season. The offender's FOID card was also revoked so he wasn't even legal to hunt the wild turkey with a firearm. The turkey meat, fan and spurs were seized as evidence, and the offender has a court date at the Cass County courthouse.

#### **CHRISTIAN COUNTY**

CPOs Gilmer and Wichern helped with an Illinois high school Bass tournament at Sangchris Lake. There were several competitors in the tournament, and each boat required a safety check prior to launch for the tournament. It was a great opportunity to speak with high school students and answer the numerous questions they had. No injuries or accidents occurred during the tournament, and the fishing proved to be good for the participants.

CPO Cochran conducted a presentation for approximately 100 kindergarten students at North School in Taylorville. CPO Cochran taught the students about the daily duties of a Conservation Police Officer.

#### LOGAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### MASON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### MENARD COUNTY

CPO Bettis presented 4 separate 20 minute presentations to 80 Petersburg elementary students. He used the education trailer to teach them about different Illinois wildlife and fish they may encounter in their area.

#### MORGAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Bettis attended the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus Foundation Civic Engagement Youth Day, which was attended by 450 eighth grade students from across the state.

#### SCOTT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

# <u>District 13</u> – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

# **BOND COUNTY**

# **CLINTON COUNTY**

CPO Tapley issued several warnings and citations at the spillway of Carlyle Lake for fishing violations.

#### **MADISON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### MONROE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### **MONTGOMERY**

CPO Matt Lentz issued citations to two males for unlawfully taking Largemouth Bass less than 15 inches at Coffeen Lake.

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Ralph Sievers checked a turkey hunter who was driving his UTV back to his truck. The hunter's gun was loaded and not in a case. CPO Sievers issued a citation to the hunter.

At the end of January of this year, a Piney Creek Ravine Nature Preserve visitor observed six small areas in an abandoned field that were covered with burlap. CPO Sievers was notified and located the areas. It was determined that the cultivated areas covered with burlap were possible future sites for a cannabis grow. CPO Sievers removed the burlaps and notified the IDNR staff who work at the site. CPO Sievers returned to the cultivated areas and identified that the area has been abandoned and the vegetation has grown back over.

CPO Ralph Sievers is working a complaint from a landowner about a turkey hunter hunting without permission. The illegal hunter provided the landowner with a false name before he ran off with his shotgun while leaving behind his turkey decoy. The primary suspect is a hunter whose hunting privileges have recently been revoked.

CPO Ralph Sievers aided the Randolph County IEMA personnel with transportation to the Kaskaskia Island by boat since vehicle access to Kaskaskia Island has been lost due to a levee bursting north of the island.

CPO Ralph Sievers approached a fisherman fishing at the Randolph County Recreational Area. When the fisherman observed CPO Sievers, he quickly reeled in his third fishing pole. CPO Sievers addressed the two pole limit and the fisherman stated that he knew he was only allowed two fishing poles. CPO Sievers issued a written warning to the fisherman.

CPO Ralph Sievers had started work at 5 AM for turkey hunting enforcement. As soon as he clocked on, a domestic disturbance 911 call was broadcast on the Randolph County Sheriff's Department's radio frequency. CPO Sievers was closer to the incident than the on duty Sheriff's Deputy so he responded to the address. CPO Sievers secured the scene until the deputy arrived. Just as the deputy arrived, the Randolph County Dispatch notified the officers that a traffic crash west of Ruma was reported with the driver trapped in the vehicle. CPO Sievers and the deputy completed and cleared from the domestic disturbance call and responded to the traffic crash. The Red Bud Fire Department and Medstar arrived on scene and removed the injured female from the vehicle. The traffic crash was handled by the Illinois State Police.

#### ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Schachner worked a day shift in conjunction with CPO Rolfingsmeier and CPO French at Frank Holten State Park. Immediately upon arriving at the park, CPO Schachner observed a vehicle towing a trailer with the tailgate dragging and losing debris and demolished furniture on the roadway. The subject was warned for the unsecured load and cited for an unregistered trailer. A short time later, CPO Schachner cited two non-resident subjects for falsifying fishing licenses after it was determined the subjects falsified their residency in an attempt to save a few dollars by purchasing the lower-cost resident fishing license. However, they now have a mandatory court date with restitution to the state and possible fines up to \$2,000. CPO Schachner and CPO Rolfingsmeier observed a subject with a minor fishing violation. Upon checking the subject's identification, it grew into a suspended driver's license, no vehicle insurance and illegal registration. The final result was four citations; a towed vehicle, and a trip to jail after the female subject made the poor decision to resist arrest and fight the officers. Numerous additional warnings were written for various violations over the course of the day.

CPO Tapley attended a hunter safety course in Mascoutah. 28 students were in attendance.

CPO French arrested a St Louis subject for using his brother's resident fishing license.

CPO French arrested a Collinsville subject on a warrant for cocaine distribution.

CPO French arrested a Cahokia subject for DUI-Drugs, possession of 12.5 grams of cannabis, a scale with ziplock baggies and for speeding in Frank Holten State Park.

While working a week long detail at Frank Holten State Park, CPO Rolfingsmeier wrote the following for the violations he observed. 7 written warnings for various park and Illinois Vehicle Code violations, citations and arrests for 3 suspended drivers, 1 drug arrest for possession of Cannabis, 3speeding citations, 1 citation for falsification to acquire resident sport fishing license, 2 fishing without a valid license, and 2 warrant arrests.

# **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

# **REGION 5 – Captain Jim Mayes**

# District 14 - Sgt. Jeff Cariens

(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline, White)

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY

While conducting fishing compliance checks on small lakes in Franklin County, CPO Williams issued six citations to individuals fishing without licenses and two citations for jug fishing in violation of the "2 pole and line only" regulations on the West Frankfort New City Lake.

CPO Lay issued a citation to a Sesser boat owner for failing to transfer the certificate/title on his watercraft.

CPO Lay issued a citation to a Franklin County resident after an investigation found that he had taken a fox kit from the wild and retained it alive.

CPO Lay issued citations to a subject fishing on Rend Lake without a license.

CPO Lay issued citations to three Franklin County residents and one non-resident/ Missouri fisherman, for fishing on the Big Muddy River and Rend Lake without a license.

CPO Lay investigated a complaint of a subject selling foxes on Heartland Community Swap. No charges or violation were found.

CPO Williams and CPO Folden patrolled Lake Benton and Rend Lake checking sport fishing compliance with the district's 20' work boat. Violations found were addressed with several written warnings and one citation for not enough life jackets.

CPO Schoenhoff was checking fishermen in Franklin county and issued a citation to a subject who was fishing without a fishing license. She also issued a written warning to the other party in the group who was also fishing without a fishing license.

#### **GALLATIN COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### **HAMILTON COUNTY**

CPO Folden arrested a man for driving while suspended in the Hamilton County State Fish and Wildlife Area.

CPO Folden was checking fishermen on department lands when he observed an ATV unlawfully operating on the roadway within the park. CPO Folden observed the ATV quickly turn around when the operator saw CPO Folden. CPO Folden quickly went back to his truck, traveled toward the ATV's direction of travel, located the ATV, and initiated a traffic stop. The operator of the ATV told CPO Folden "I do not have a driver's license, that's why I am on my three-wheeler." The subject was cited for driving while suspended and warned for unlawful operation of an ATV on the roadway.

#### HARDIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Jourdan arrested a man on a warrant at the Nason Access Area of the Waltonville Dam. He also issued two civil citations to the person.

# POPE COUNTY

# SALINE COUNTY

CPO Diggins conducted sport fish and boat enforcement at Harrisburg City Lake. 4 citations were issued for no sport fishing licenses

#### WHITE COUNTY

CPO Folden launched a boat on the backwaters of the Skillet Fork and patrolled in White, Hamilton, and Wayne Counties. CPO Folden located 3 kayakers who had been in dangerous waters without wearable personal floatation devices. CPO Folden explained the dangers of their actions and issued each subject a citation for not having wearable personal floatation devices.

CPO Schoenhoff stopped a timber truck in White County which resulted in a written warning for operation of a commercial vehicle without the proper class license.

CPO Schoenhoff issued a citation in White County for fishing without a sport fishing license.

# **District 15** – Sgt. Dave Hyatt

(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)

# **CLAY COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

# **CRAWFORD COUNTY**

While on routine patrol at the Crawford County Conservation Area, CPO Roper observed three individuals mushroom hunting. It was before 1 P.M., which is contrary to posted park rules. The individuals were issued written warnings.

#### **EDWARDS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

# **EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### **FAYETTE COUNTY**

While on routine patrol, CPO Roper observed a fisherman at Tower Lake in St. Elmo. It was discovered the fisherman had no valid fishing license and was issued a citation.

While on patrol, CPO Roper conducted several boat inspections at the Kaskaskia boat ramp in Vandalia. CPO Roper issued a citation for a lifejacket violation and a citation for failure to renew boat registration. Several written warnings were also issued.

#### JASPER COUNTY

CPOs Taylor and Smith recovered a drowning victim who had driven his ATV into back waters of the Embarras River.

# LAWRENCE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### MARION COUNTY

While on routine patrol, CPO Roper and CPO Buhnerkempe observed two individuals fishing at Centralia Lake. It was discovered that one of the individuals did not have his fishing license on his person. While running the individual for the fishing license, it was discovered the individual had a warrant for his arrest. The individual was arrested and taken to the Marion County Jail. A written warning for not having a fishing license in possession was also issued.

# RICHLAND COUNTY

While on routine patrol at East Fork Lake, CPO Roper observed several subjects fishing from the bank. While conducting a fishing compliance check, it was discovered one of the subjects did not have a valid fishing license. The subject was issued a citation for failure to possess a valid fishing license.

#### WABASH COUNTY

CPO Taylor issued two citations to a subject who killed a 17 point buck and allowed another to put his permit on the deer and call it in.

CPO Buhnerkempe arrested a subject wanted on a warrant. The warrant was for driving while revoked issued in 2001. The subject was driving at the time of arrest.

#### WAYNE COUNTY

CPO Buhnerkempe issued a written warning to a fisherman at the Sam Dale Lake Dam for not having his fishing license on his person while fishing.

# <u>District 16</u> – Sgt. K. Taylor

(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)

# ALEXANDER COUNTY

#### JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Mohrman attended Firearms Instructor Development training in Peoria.

CPO Mohrman participated in a panel discussion at the Carbondale Science Center concerning the upcoming solar eclipse. Representatives from different agencies discussed with the audience preparations being taken by all for this event.

CPO Mohrman conducted a survey of the Mississippi River and Big Muddy levees in Jackson County. The survey was to identify any damaged areas which may be of concern when the severe river flooding happens later in the week.

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Johnson worked Lake of Egypt and cited an individual for fishing without a license.

### MASSAC COUNTY

CPO Johnson transported workers from the Southeastern Electric CO-OP by Jon boat to restore power to individuals in Massac County that were affected by the flood waters

#### PERRY COUNTY

CPO Lewis spoke to 216 fifth and sixth graders about boating safety at the Perry County Safety Day in Du Quoin.

CPO Lewis is investigating a turkey poaching complaint. A witness observed a subject shoot a turkey from the roadway in Perry County.

CPO Lewis assisted the Perry County Sheriff's Department with rescuing a stranded subject after the recent heavy rainfall. The individual was stranded on a bridge surrounded by water. At some point during the night, he drove to the edge of the water on the flooded roadway. He then tied his vehicle with a hose to a fence post then used a jack to raise the vehicle off the ground as if he was trying to secure it from the flood waters. He then somehow made it to the bridge causing him to be stranded. The Perry County Sheriff's Office and Du Quoin Rescue were posted on one side of the flooded roadway and CPO Lewis was posted on the other. A rescue team entered the water and attempted to approach the bridge. As they approached, the subject left the safety of the bridge and began walking in the water toward CPO Lewis in an attempt to allude the rescuers which included a Perry County Deputy. The subject continued toward CPO Lewis' location even after several commands to stop. As he approached CPO Lewis, the subject was observed frantically reaching in his pockets as if looking for something. CPO Lewis ordered the subject to stop multiple times, but the subject did not comply. Then, the subject paused for a moment again reaching into his pocket. At this time, the deputy was able to catch up to him, and CPO Lewis and the rescue team were able to detain the subject. A subsequent search of the subject's pockets revealed a sharp piece of glass which could have been used as a weapon. He was transported to a local hospital for treatment due his unusual behavior. CPO Lewis was later advised the subject was under the influence of methamphetamine.

CPO Lewis cited a fisherman at Pyramid State Park for failure to release a 16-inch Largemouth Bass. There is a 14"-18" protected slot limit in the park.

CPO Lewis responded to a personal injury incident which occurred on Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge property. The victim was hiking along the Rocky Bluff Trail when she walked too close to the top of a waterfall. She slipped and fell approximately 40 feet to the base of the waterfall. She was flown to an area hospital where she was diagnosed as having multiple broken ribs, a collapsed lung, a severed liver, and a concussion. She is expected to make a full recovery.

CPO Lewis is investigating a traffic crash which occurred in Pyramid State Park. Two subjects were taking turns doing "donuts" and "mudding" on park property. There were a total of nine people in the pickup truck ranging in age from nine to 20. Five of the passengers were in the bed of the pickup and four in the cab. The reckless behavior of one of the drivers caused the truck to roll over onto its side, ejecting the passengers from the bed of the pickup. Luckily, no one was injured during the crash. The investigation has led to one of the drivers being charged with reckless driving and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Charges are pending for the second driver.

# **PULASKI COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

#### UNION COUNTY

CPO Mohrman assisted the Union County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois State Police with a triple fatal auto accident which occurred on the outskirts of Giant City State Park. The vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree resulting in the death of two adults and an infant. A fourth adult subject was flown to the Evansville hospital with severe injuries. The Illinois State Police is investigating to determine the cause of the accident.

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Somers, CPO Lewis, CPO Williams and Sgt Taylor responded to a boat accident with serious injury on Lake of Egypt. Two boats had collided on the lake while cruising. One individual was flown to a hospital in Evansville, IN. Another individual was taken to a local hospital, treated and released. An investigation is pending into the accident.

CPO Williams responded to a serious boat accident at Lake of Egypt with District 16 CPOs. CPO Williams is investigating the accident as a member of the Boat Accident Team.